

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 03876 280652Z
ACTION SIG-03

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-----123699 280654Z /21
O 280600Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1202

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 3876

FI CHANNEL

TO THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASIG
SUBJECT: INSPECTION OF COLOMBO: POST MEMORANDUM

1. STATE OF RELATIONS

U.S. SRI LANKA RELATIONS ARE GOOD. WHILE THE GSL MAY NOT ALWAYS SUPPORT US IN INTERNATIONAL FORA, AND WE MAY NOT BE MOVING AS FAST AS THE GSL WOULD LIKE IN AID DISBURSEMENTS, THERE ARE NO AREAS OF SERIOUS FRICTION. U.S. RELUCTANCE TO BE IMMEDIATELY FORTHCOMING ON MANY NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES DOES NOT SEEM PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO THIS GOVERNMENT WHICH IS MORE INTERESTED IN OUR DIRECT BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.

2. ISSUES AND PROBLEMS

THE "AMBASSADOR'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES-SRI LANKA," APPROVED MARCH 1978, ARE UP TO DATE AND REMAIN VALID.

3. ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OBJECTIVES

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"GOALS IMPLEMENTATION-SRI LANKA", APPROVED APRIL 1978, REMAINS CURRENT.

ILLUSTRATIVE ISSUES

1-A. POLICY FORMULATION

THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT UNRESOLVED
SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES OR PROCEDURES BETWEEN
THE MISSION AND WASHINGTON.

1-B. MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY

AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT,
THE GSL IS RELATIVELY INFLEXIBLE IN DEVIATING
FROM NAM POSITIONS IN RESPONSE TO BILATERAL
REPRESENTATIONS.

3. MISSION MANAGEMENT

NO OUTSTANDING ISSUES IN THIS AREA.

3. POLITICAL AFFAIRS

OUR POLITICAL SECTION HAS BEEN REDUCED TO ONE
AMERICAN OFFICER. PER SHOULD INSURE THAT THIS
IS NOT AGAIN STAFFED BY AN OFFICER ON FIRST
POLITICAL ASSITNGMENT.

4. ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS

THIS SECTION IS STAFFED BY ONE ECON/COMMERCIAL
OFFICER AND THE LABOR OFFICER. ALL RESPONSI-
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BILITIES FROM WTDR'S AND TRADE OPPORTUNITIES
TO RECEIVING AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN HAVE
DOUBLED OR TRIPLED IN 1978 OVER 1977. WE
ANTICIPATE REQUESTING AN ADDITIONAL LOCAL
POSITION FOR THIS SECTION.

PER SHOULD INSURE THAT THE ECON-COMMERCIAL
OFFICER NEXT ASSIGNED IS AS CAPABLE AS THE
INCUMBENT OF SUPERVISING THIS ACTIVE OPERATION,
WHILE ALSO SERVING AS THE AMBASSADOR'S DIRECT
ASSISTANT TO MONITOR BURGEONING AID ACTIVITIES.
PER SHOULD INSURE THAT THE LABOR POSITION IS
NOT AGAIN STAFFED BY AN OFFICER ON FIRST
LABOR ASSIGNMENT.

5. CONSULAR AFFAIRS

OUR SINGLE CONSULAR OFFICER IS BY ANY
OBJECTIVE STANDARD SERIOUSLY OVERWORKED BY
A RAPIDLY INCREASING WORKLOAD. AT PIT AMERICAN
POSITION HAS BEEN ADDED BUT DOES NOT MEET THE
NEED. WE AWAIT A RESPONSE TO COLOMBO 3754

REQUESTING A SECOND FSL POSITION.

6. POST ADMINISTRATION

THE EMBASSY ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION (FOUR STATE PERSONNEL) PROVIDES ALL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TO ALL USG AGENCIES IN SRI LANKA, INCLUDING THE RAPIDLY GROWING AID MISSION. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDED THAT IN LIGHT OF THEIR INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (FSO-4) AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY (FSS-7) BE UPGRADED. THE DEPARTMENT TURNED THIS DOWN AND AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 78 ABOLISHED BOTH THE ADMINISTRATIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECRETARY AND BUDGET AND FISCAL OFFICER POSITIONS. THIS WILL LEAVE THE THE GSO (FSR-7) AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER THE ONLY TWO AMERICAN IN THE SECTION. WE AWAIT A RESPONSE TO COLOMBO 3756(STADIS AND COLOMBO 3755 REQUESTING A PIT AND FSL POSITION TO TRY AND FILL THE GAP. PER SHOULD INSURE THAT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER POSITION IS NOT AGAIN STAFFED STAFFED BY AN OFFICER ON FIRST ADMIN ASSIGNMENT.

7. PERSONNEL EVALUATION SYSTEM

NO KNOWN PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA.

8. CONSULAR AGENCY

OUR CONSULAR AGENT IN MALE, REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES, MISS RASHEEDA MOHAMMED DIDI, WAS APPOINTED EFFECTIVE 20 JULY 78. HER OFFICE IS NOW BEING OUTFITTED, A TELEX INSTALLED,ETC. ALTHOUGH THIS IS AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN ON OUR HARDPRESSED ADMINISTRATIVE AND CONSULAR PERSONNEL, IT IS ALREADY PAYING OFF IN THE HANDLING OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THIS REMOTE

9. OTHER AGENCIES

THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA WHICH THE INSPECTORS NEED PURSUE IN WASHINGTON. HOWEVER, A REVIEW WITH FBO OF NEW CHANCERY PLANS TO INSURE THAT THEY PROVIDE ADEQUATE SPACE FOR ICA WOULD BE HELPFUL. WE HAVE NOT FOUND THAT FBO ACTIVELY SEEKS TO BRING THE POST INTO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMPORTANT DECISION-MAKING.

IS THERE ANY WAY OF INSURING THAT DOD DOES
NOT AGAIN STAFF THE ATTACHE OFFICE ENTIRELY
WITH PERSONNEL ON FIRST ATTACHE ASSIGNMENT?

10. OTHER ACTIVITIES

THERE ARE NO TROBLESOME ISSUES IN THIS
AREA. OUR LOCAL SCHOOL SITUATION IS PROBLEM-
ATICAL AND NOT LIKELY TO MARKEDLY IMPROVE IN
THE NEAR FUTURE. YOU MAY WISH TO REVIEW
LATEST POLICY WITH A/CS, WHICH HAS BEEN
RESPONSIVE TO OUR SITUATION.

11. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

NO PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA.
WRIGGINS

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